IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A crystalline, hydrated form of the sodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid, wherein the form contains from 6.4 up to 22 weight % of sodium and 15 up to 23 weight % of crystalline water if the sodium content is lower than 7.5 weight %, based on the whole molecule, or 4.5 up to 18 weight % of crystalline water if the sodium content is equal to or higher than 13 weight %, based on the anhydrous substance.

Claim 2 (Original): The crystalline form according to claim 1, which is pentahydrate of the monosodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid, wherein said form contains 20 up to 23 weight % of water built in the crystal lattice and 5.5 up to 7.5 % of sodium, based on the whole molecule.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claim 2, wherein said form ~~contains~~ comprises 22.8 weight % of water built in the crystal lattice and 6.4 up to 6.7 % of sodium, based on the whole molecule.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claims 2 or 3, wherein said form shows a powder X-ray diffraction pattern with interplanar distances d that are approximately 16.3; 13.0; 9.1 and 4.9 Å.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claims 2 or 3, wherein said form shows ~~the~~ an infrared spectrum ~~with~~ having bands at 1169; 1060; 1046 and 891 $cm^{-1}$.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claims 2 or 3, wherein a thermogravimetric analysis of ~~which~~ said form shows a plateau at temperature of about 173 °C.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claims 2 or 3, wherein a ~~the~~ $^{31}P$ CP-MAS NMR spectrum of ~~which~~ said form shows signals 13.7 and 20.0 ppm.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claim 1, which is trihydrate of the trisodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid, wherein said form ~~contains~~ comprises 19 up to 21 weight % of sodium and 12 up to 14 weight % of water in the crystal lattice.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claim 8, wherein said form shows ~~the~~ an infrared spectrum ~~with~~ having bands approximately at 1114; 1085; 956; 616 and 544 $cm^{-1}$.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claim 1, which is monohydrate of the disodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid, wherein said form ~~contains~~ comprises 13 up to 15 weight % of sodium, based on the anhydrous substance, and 4.5 up to 6.5 weight % of water in the crystal lattice.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The crystalline form according to claim 10, wherein said form shows ~~the~~ an infrared spectrum ~~with~~ having bands at approximately 1183; 1158; 1071 and 1042 $cm^{-1}$.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacture of the crystalline form according to ~~any of the foregoing claims characterized in that~~ claim 1, comprising incorporating an aqueous solution of the sodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid heated to 50 up to 80 °C ~~is incorporated~~ into an organic solvent.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 12, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of simple alcohols from the $C_1$ to $C_5$ series~~, especially 2-propanol~~.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacture of the crystalline form according to ~~any of claims 1 through 11 characterized in that~~ claim 1, comprising introducing seeding crystals of the respective hydrate of the sodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonate ~~are introduced~~ into the solution of the sodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid and slowly cooling the solution ~~is slowly cooled~~.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ crystallization is performed from a solution of the sodium salt in a mixture of water and a water-miscible organic substance.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition designed for treating diseases associated with a bone-resorption disorder, comprising ~~characterized in that it contains~~ as the active agent, a hydrate of the sodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 through 11~~ and at least one auxiliary substance.

Claim 17 (New): The method according to claim 12, wherein the organic solvent is 2-propanol.